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COMMENT

The Water Treatment Controversy



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EAST BEACHES NEWS:

Living on the Edge - Literally!



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Grand Marais Cashspiel



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\$1.00 tax included
 January 21, 2009
 Volume 8, No. 32
The Winnipeg River

Echo

Pine Falls/Powerview, Sagkeew, St. Georges, Great Falls, Beaches, Little Black River, Manigotagan and Bissett



The Tembec Mill in Pine Falls

Newsprint Consumption Down Bad news for Pine Falls

By Charles Norman

Last year's figures are not in yet, but details of US newsprint demand up to the end of

October show a whopping reduction of 20.2% over the previous twelve months.

Before the introduction of the Internet and its effect on

newspaper advertising, the consumption of newsprint followed a four-year cycle with the high-point in the

Continued on page 2

Another Winter Carnival Shaping Up to be a Great Event

By Charles Norman

The Grand Marais Family Festival is becoming an institution - a welcome break from the winter blues.

Grand Marais has put together an incredible team of volunteers who can make a success of just about any

event they try their hands at, and the Family Festival has become one of those success stories - a celebration in the depths of a brutal winter that takes the edge off and seems to bring spring just a little bit closer. As always the focus will be on the children.

Continued on page 2

New Jobs at Milner Ridge

By Charles Norman

A 150 bed expansion at the Milner Ridge Correctional Centre is nearing completion. Originally scheduled for completion last fall it will be complete in early February. The project is on budget at \$33 million.

Milner ridge was changed from a minimum security facility to medium security about a year ago. Since becoming a medium security centre there have been no escapes.

The existing correctional centre consisted of 140 beds which included a renovated youth centre providing 20 beds for adult males.

The expansion, which is a separate from the original building, includes upgrading to the facilities water and

wastewater treatment system and a food service building to serve the entire complex.

An increase in staffing is needed to accommodate the expanded operation. Fifty people are currently undergoing training and will be joining the centre upon successful completion of their training. There are currently openings for four part-time food services trade instructors and one full-time and two part-time nurses. There is an ongoing need for correctional officers. Application forms can be obtained from the Milner Ridge Correctional Centre.

As the name suggests the facility is located on a ridge. It is on Highway 214 between Beausejour and Lac du Bonnet. During the cold war the site was used as a radar station.



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News

Councils Must Work Together

Continued from page 1
 cycle corresponding with the Olympic Games and the US presidential election. Consumption in a presidential election year was often 4% above the following year. Overall consumption slowly increased with the growth of the economy so peaks and valleys were always a little higher than those of the previous cycle.

October, even taking into account the massive advertising usual in the final month of the election campaign it can be expected that the consumption of newsprint next year will be 25% below 2007 if there is no further erosion of the market.

There are 40 newsprint producers in North America. These figures almost certainly mean that one quarter of North America's newsprint

capacity will close. The most inefficient will go. These will be the smaller mills lacking the economies of scale of the big producers, that is, more than ten newsprint mills will close by the end of the year. Since Pine Falls cost of production falls in the bottom 25% on a cost basis, it seems almost unavoidable that the Pine Falls mill will still be in production at the end of this year.

However there are other factors at work. Newsprint

consumption in Canada is not following the US trend and the value of the Canadian dollar will have an impact. The Pine Falls mill may not close this year, but it will be very vulnerable to any further weakening of the market.

The town and the RM councils have incorporated the Edgewater Development Corporation with the job of securing economic development in the region. The two councils have not yet

appointed a board of directors for the new corporation, so obviously they have not met to develop a strategic plan to deal with the possibility of losing the communities' major employer, nor have they hired an economic development officer.

The two councils have not shown a great deal of enthusiasm for working together so far. The people who voted for them should tell them that it is about time they did.

And the Fun Continues...

Continued from page 1

This year the festival will be held on the Weekend of February 6th, 7th, and 8th, as usual it will be based in the Grand Marais Recreational Centre, but there will be several events outside taking advantage of what we have lots of - snow and ice.

On Friday evening, February 6th the Grand Opening will include politicians and other dignitaries bringing greetings from their respective communities. Entertainment will be provided by the Walter Whyte School Band, fiddlers and a live local band. Outside a huge bonfire will make an island of warmth in the cold

February air.

Saturday will be crammed with activity. Clowns Snappy and Inch will be there. There will be balloon sculpting, finger painting, sleigh rides, a family curling bonspiel, a crib tournament, "ski to win", fishpond, crafts an much more.

In the evening there will be the Ted Longbottom Show and the Glen Westburg Band. Sunday activities include

a pancake breakfast for the whole family and an interfaith service with the "Bells of Praise" from Thalberg. The afternoon will round off with a raffle draw and silent auction. As always there will be many great prizes to win.

Food and drink will be available from the canteen and the bar. The Saturday night event will cost \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children from 5 to 12 years old.



The Town and RM councils have to start looking at the increasingly real possibility that the community might lose its major employer.

<p>Saturday Jan 24 Fundraiser Meet Draw For the Maskwa Snowmobile Club</p> <p>Saturday Jan 24 KARAOKE</p> <p>NITE No Cover Thursday</p>	<p>Papertown Motor Inn</p> <p>Thursday \$8.99 Bud, Spud & Rib Night Tax included</p> <p>Friday \$8.99 Bud, Spud & Steak Night Tax included</p> <p>Saturday \$8.99 Bud, Spud & Steak Night Tax included</p> <p>HAPPY HOUR Every Weekend 4:30-8:00pm</p>
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Children enjoy the antics of Dean Gunnarson at last year's festival

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Powerview RCMP Press Report News January 5-18, 2009

REMINDERS:

Traffic Accident Reports are filed with Police within 7 days when:

- A) You have had a collision with any wildlife/birds/domestic animal,
- B) Damage to your vehicle from a single vehicle collision is over \$1,000.00,
- C) Damage to 2 or more vehicles involved is over \$1,000.00 combined,
- D) Or your vehicle has been damaged in a hit and run incident while parked etc...

Police are dispatched to injury accidents or where public safety is concerned.

2009/01/05

FORT ALEXANDER - a complaint of harassing phone calls was dealt with informally by police. A female was verbally warned and advised to discontinue calls. The incident was a result of an ongoing dispute.

- a missing youth was reported to police and placed on system but later located by a foster parent.

2009/01/06

RM ALEXANDER - a patrol of highway 11 was made after complaints of a vehicle crossing the roadway and being driven erratically. The vehicle matching the description provided however was not located.

POWERSVIEW - police continue to investigate a sexual assault.

2009/01/07

TRAVERSE BAY - an assault between 2 males resulted in both males being spoken to and no charges as a result of the incident.

2009/01/08

POWERSVIEW - a break, enter and theft at a residence resulted in property damage and stolen jewelry.

- a dispute between an estranged couple resulted in the male breaking into the residence. The female declined charges in the matter.

RM ALEXANDER - emergency response crews attended a single motor vehicle accident and treated 1 male for injuries. The man

was also in breach of court conditions and was charged accordingly by police.

HOLLOW WATER - a stolen vehicle was recovered in the area with some damages. A suspect was identified in the incident.

SEYMOURVILLE - police patrolled the area after an incident of threats being uttered to harm a person were made. Culprits did not attend the residence and complainants declined pursuing the matter.

2009/01/09

POWERSVIEW - a female declined pursuing charges of assault. Another female and herself had been intoxicated at the time when police were contacted to intervene. Once sober the matter was dealt with informally.

- 2 incidents of shoplifting at a local business were reported to police. Culprits were caught on surveillance camera. Investigation continues.

2009/01/10

FORT ALEXANDER -

police intervened in a family dispute where 2 females were advised to not attend a residence. Alcohol was involved in the incident.

HOLLOW WATER - an attempted theft of a vehicle resulted in a damaged ignition. Culprits also stole a winter emergency kit and an ipod caller.

2009/01/11

FORT ALEXANDER - investigation continues into a complaint of threats being uttered.

RM ALEXANDER - Police attended a residence and removed an intoxicated male. The man had been causing a disturbance and damaged property. He was lodged in cells until sober and released. The complainant a relative declined to proceed with mischief charges in the incident.

2009/01/13

FORT ALEXANDER - An uncooperative intoxicated

male was lodged in cells to prevent further problems. The man had been at a relatives several times attempting to gain access when police were called. He was released later in the evening hours sober and warned verbally by police.

2009/11/15

MANIGOTAGAN - a break and enter to a residence was reported to police. Investigation continues.

POWERSVIEW - a complaint of theft of cash from a residence was reported to police. A suspect was identified however further investigation continues.

2009/11/16

FORT ALEXANDER - police attended a local business after a suspicious male was seen hanging around the building. After several patrols police did not locate the man nor were there any other complaints throughout

Continued on page 6

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Manitoba

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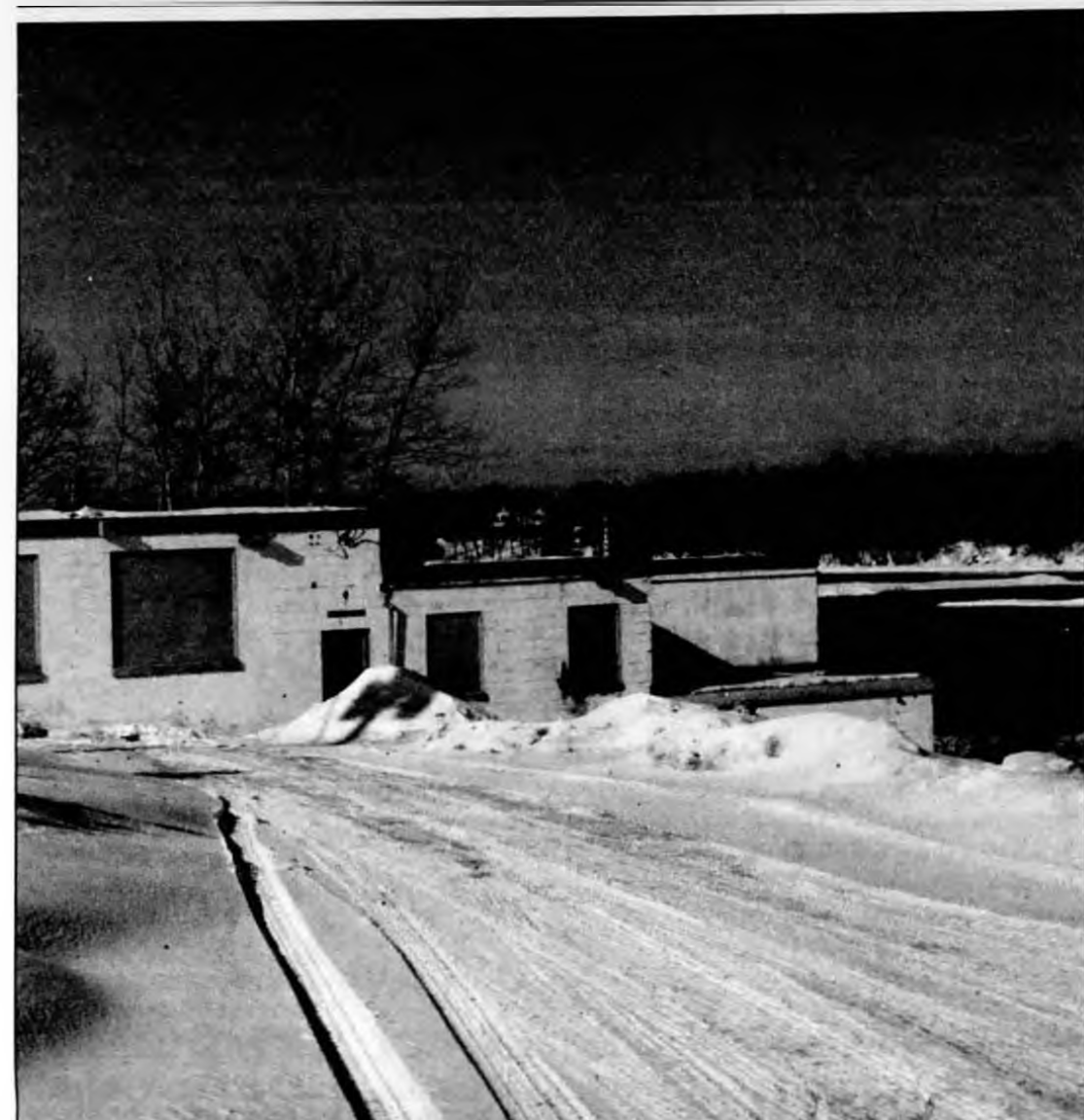
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Manitoba

Comment



The Water Treatment Controversy

By Charles Norman

At times it seems as if there are as many water treatment alternatives as there are people in the communities served. There are not. There are only six possibilities, but there has been so much misinformation banded about by opponents to the various alternatives that it sometimes seems impossible to make sense of it all.

The Echo is going to try to do just that. To examine every possible alternative and try to come up with capital and operating costs of the various possibilities so that we can compare apples to apples and oranges to

oranges.

There are only six alternatives:

- 1) The only water treatment plant is the existing Lac du Bonnet plant - supplying water to the R. M. of Alexander and the Town of Powerview/Pine Falls
- 2) Lac du Bonnet supplies only Powerview/Pine Falls. The RM has its own plant
- 3) Powerview/Pine Falls takes over the Tembec water treatment plant and the RM builds a new one.
- 4) Powerview/Pine Falls and the RM share in a new plant in the RM
- 5) Powerview/Pine Falls and

the RM take over and operate the Tembec plant jointly.

- 6) Both Powerview/Pine Falls and the RM each build a brand new plant.

The analysis ought to put an end to most of the controversy. Ought to - but will not. There will still be some with personal agendas, but the analysis will give taxpayers a way of gauging the seriousness of the opposition.

There is already a great deal of information available. It is anticipated that the analysis can be completed in about three weeks or so - say the third or fourth week of February.

A Faith Perspective:

By Pastor Jake Doell

Did I Say That?



All of us have at one time said something or done something and very quickly realized, "Oops, I goofed!" It's kind of like speaking without putting your brain in gear. It's not only "kids that say the damndest things." Mayor Richard Daley during the 1968 Democratic Convention said, "The police are not here to create disorder. They are here to preserve disorder."

Here are a few more quotes along that vein:

"Half of this game is ninety percent mental." Danny Ozark, manager of the Philadelphia Phillies

"We're going to turn this team around 360 degrees." Jason Kidd

Question: "If you could live forever, would you and why?"

Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we could live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever." - 1994 Miss USA Pageant Contestant

I'm sure we can all think to a time when we uttered some words and a few seconds later asked ourselves, "Did I just say that?" Sometimes it would be nice to have that 5 second delay to

edit our words before they actually were heard. The positive side to our word bloopers is that they can serve as unintentional humor.

At others times our words can be hurtful. Words like, "That's the most stupid thing I ever heard of" can discourage and inflict pain into a hearer's heart.

The Bible gives some good encouragement regarding our words. Here are a few pointers that can help us to speak well:

Proverbs 18:13 - "Spouting off before listening to the facts is both shameful and foolish."

Proverbs 18:20 - Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction."

Proverbs 16:23&24 - "From a wise mind comes wise speech; the words of the wise are persuasive. Kind words are like honey - sweet to the soul and healthy to the body."

Our words are powerful. They can build up or tear down. Sometimes they are good fuel for laughter. I would encourage you to read the Book of Proverbs in the Bible. It contains much wisdom for our lives, especially in the area of speech. I think most of us probably could benefit from a good helping of wisdom.



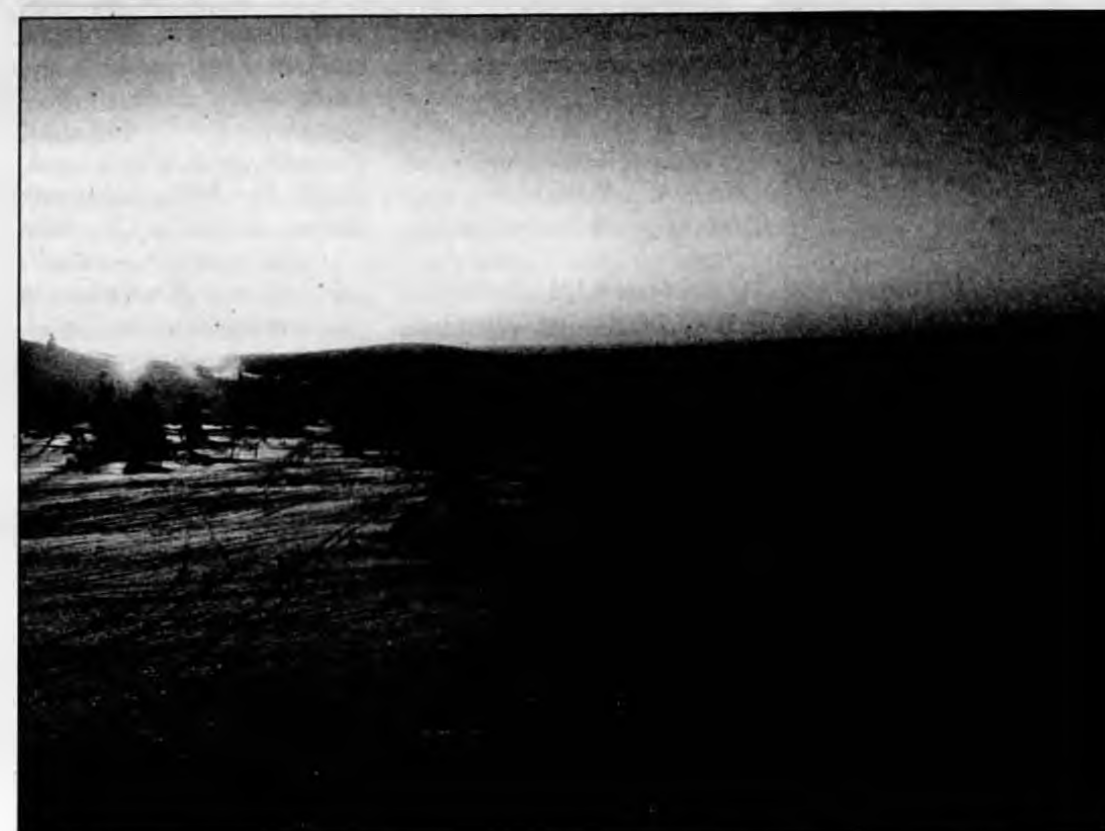
Chicago Mayor Richard Daley at the 1968 Democratic Convention

Comment



On Parliament Hill

Your Voice in Ottawa, Vic Toews, MP for Provencher and President of the Treasury Board



Investing in Canada's North

Last week, I had the opportunity to travel up to Whitehorse, Yukon, to consult with local business leaders and community leaders and make some important announcements on behalf of our Government.

This was my fifth trip up North since becoming a federal Minister. I welcome any opportunity to visit this very important part of our country and I'm proud that we have made the North a priority.

Our Government supports a Northern vision that realizes the North's full economic and social potential. We have introduced an integrated Northern Strategy that focuses on four priorities: strengthening Arctic sovereignty, protecting the North's environmental heritage, promoting social and economic development, and improving and devolving Northern governance.

All these priorities are critical to the success and advancement of the North.

Economic development, however, has an immediate impact on local communities, and is even more crucial during difficult global economic times.

Making important eco-

nomonic investments is key to ensuring our country emerges from these tough times stronger than ever.

In Whitehorse, I was pleased to announce a number of investments in support of economic and business development in the North. The investments involved funding for a number of economic and business development projects spearheaded by the Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce (WCOC), investments to build job opportunities in Yukon's mining and exploration sectors by providing training and skills development funding for the Yukon Mine Training Association, and investments in Yukon's recycling capacity which means healthier, sustainable communities and increased economic opportunities.

I also announced investments in community and arts organizations in Yukon, including the Dawson City Music Festival Association, the Yukon Sourdough Rendez-Vous Society, and the Dawson City Arts Society, in support of their projects and festivals.

Our Government recog-



MP Report

Niki Ashton, MP Churchill

Infrastructure Investment an Opportunity

If media reports are any indication it finally appears that everyone is in agreement that we need an economic stimulus program that involves a major commitment to increased infrastructure spending.

Spending in infrastructure offers immediate economic stimulus and long term benefits. It allows us to advance projects to construction that would otherwise take years.

One of the reasons that this investment is so attractive is that we have been under spending on infrastructure in Canada for decades. We have developed what has been called an infrastructure deficit, or the gap between the infrastructure we have and what we need. This gap exists in municipal, First Nations, provincial and federal government infrastructure.

You can see the infrastructure deficit in many forms. In some cases it is in the form of crumbling roads or bridges. In other cases it is in the form of outdated water and wastewater systems.

Clearly we need funding to upgrade this infrastructure.

In Northern Manitoba we also know first-hand that the infrastructure gap is visible in many other ways. In terms of transportation we have 22 communities that have no all weather roads. We have communities that lack proper airports. We have rail lines and

government and First Nations.

It is only by working together that we can truly advance economic development in the North. I was very pleased to once again travel up North and do my part to continue to build these partnerships.

Port of Churchill

the Port of Churchill that continue to need upgrading. We have a tremendous need to upgrade and build new affordable housing as well as senior's housing.

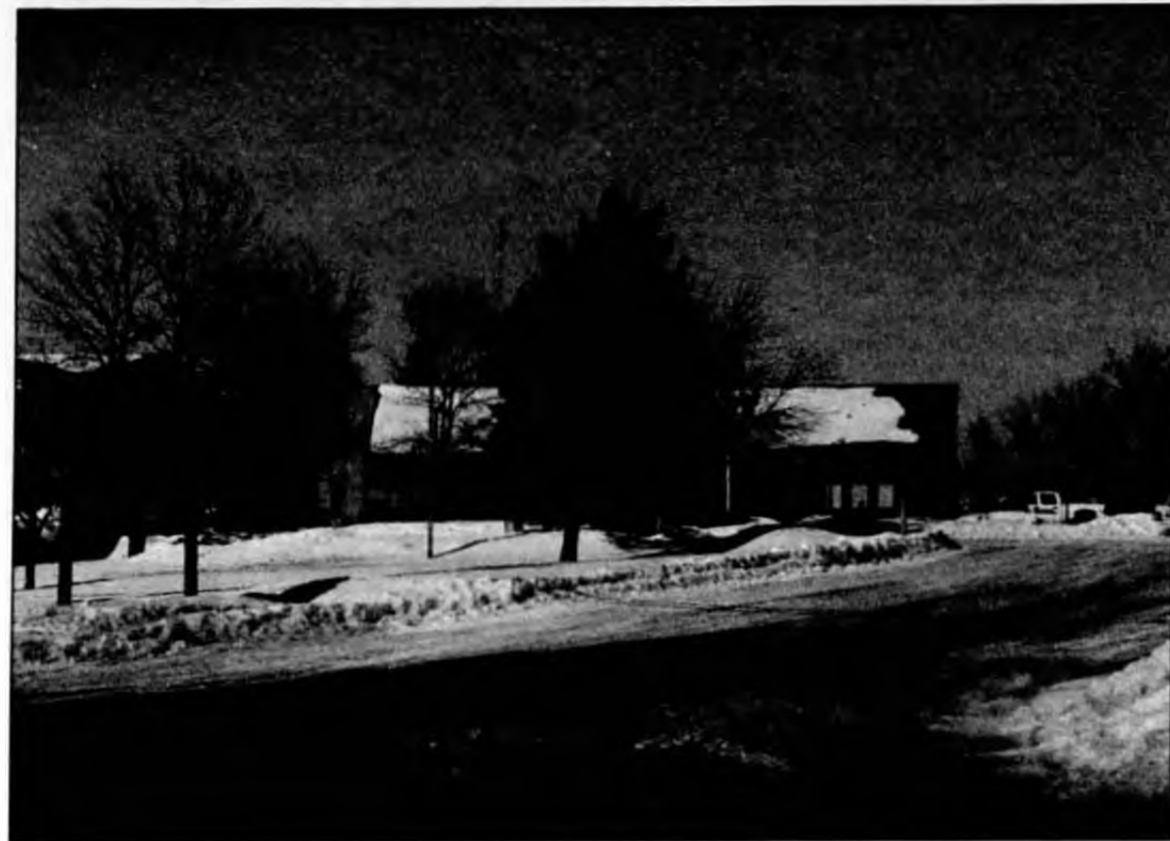
It is also important to remember the other areas where we lack infrastructure. Child care is a good example. We have a shortage of child care available in many communities because of the lack of capital for child care. We have a shortage of education infrastructure in the form of communities having overcrowded schools or no schools at all. Many communities also need an investment in health infrastructure. There is a significant need to invest in recreation infrastructure to make sure that there are healthy alternatives for people of all ages in our communities.

We have an opportunity with the economic stimulus package to make a real difference in many of these areas. We have an opportunity to make a real difference here in Northern Manitoba.

My message as MP is clear. No area of the country has more of an infrastructure deficit than we do. No area of the country could benefit more from the economic stimulus than our region. Let's not miss this opportunity to stimulate the economy and invest in the long term social and economic development of Northern Manitoba.



News



Powerview RCMP Report Jan 5-18

Continued from page 3

the evening.

POWERSVIEW - police again patrolled near a residence where an unknown male had been seen looking in a window. The man was not located at this time.

PINE FALLS - an intoxicated male was dealt with

prior to police arrival. The man had been seen on a roadway but was finally given a ride by an unknown vehicle in the vicinity.

2009/01/17

BLACK RIVER - while dealing with a male on

another matter further investigation found the man to have outstanding warrants. He was taken into custody and transported to Provincial Remand Center to await a court date.

HOLLOW WATER - investigation continues into

an assault of 2 females by a male.
FORT ALEXANDER - a fight at a local convenience store resulted in 1 female being charged with assault by police. The woman faces other charges as well. Investigation continues.

2009/01/18

MANIGOTAGAN - an incident of threats being uttered is still under investigation.

RM ALEXANDER - a 2006 Dodge Charger was stolen from a residence however a second vehicle was recovered at the same scene. The owner of that vehicle was notified by police. Winnipeg Police services recovered the Charger the following day with a third stolen vehicle.

POWERSVIEW - Police continue to investigate a domestic dispute. A female was assaulted in the incident but did not seek medical attention.

SUMMARY:

Police also followed up on 12 false alarm(s) actioned 5 request(s) for assistance to other police services/service of legal documents, issued 4 ticket(s) under the highway traffic/liquor acts, attended 1 incident (s) under the Coroners Act, charged 0 person(s) for impaired driving/refusal of breath test, lodged 9 person(s) under the intoxicated persons detention act, transported 1 person(s) under the mental health act to the appropriate facilities, attended 1 noise complaint(s) and processed 17 traffic accident reports.

REMEMBER IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON ANY CRIMINAL MATTER YOU CAN REMAIN ANONYMOUS AND CONTACT CRIME STOPPERS AT 1-800-782-8477 OR THE POWERSVIEW RCMP AT 367-8728.

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Community

24th Annual Brokenhead River Agriculture Conference

Please join us for the 24th Annual Brokenhead River Agriculture Conference, which takes place at the Brokenhead River Community Hall on Wednesday January 28, 2009. The theme of this year's conference is Managing for the Future. As in the past, registration will begin at 8:30 am, and the conference will begin at 9:00 am, running until approximately 4:00 pm.

For your registration fee of \$10.00 per person, you will enjoy the trade show with approximately 40 booths, held in the Community Hall, as well as the morning and afternoon speaker sessions, held in the Beausejour Legion. There will also be donuts and coffee, as well as a delicious hot lunch, provided by the Legion volunteers.

We have an interesting and informative line up of speakers this year, covering a range of topics related to fertilizer, disease, and water management, grain markets, and managing for the future. Les Kletke, who is provided courtesy of Versatile, will be the keynote speaker, following introduction, and will also provide an overview of the day and his thoughts at the end of the conference. Les has spent more than two decades communicating the messages of agriculture, both as a journalist and extension worker. Don Bousquet, owner of Resource News International Ltd., will provide an outlook on grain markets. Don is the host of the Farm Market News radio show, and his weekly farm market outlooks can be found on DTN, and on his own website.

Other speakers include Rigas Karamanos, provided courtesy of Viterra, who will be speaking on Nitrogen and Phosphorous recommendations with respect to cost. John McGregor of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives will speak about Fusarium head blight and management strategies. There will be a speaker from Manitoba Water Stewardship on minor water control works licensing. Agassiz Soil and

Crop Improvement Association will also hold their annual meeting and provide a research site update.

Sponsors for the conference include Sunova Credit Union, TD Canada Trust Agriculture Services, Ag-Chieve Corporation, Agassiz Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Viterra, Versatile, Leo's Sales & Service Ltd., Manitoba Risk Education Program, and Agricultural Sustainability Initiative. Another important partner in the conference is the Agri-Post, who have provided assistance with posters, flyers,

advertising in their late December issue, as well as conference programs.

We will be offering a door prize, a prize for completing the conference evaluation forms, and the conference prize of a STX450 Pedal Tractor, with wagon and also 2 pails of oil, courtesy of Leo's Sales & Service Ltd. in Winnipeg. Please remember that you must be in attendance at the draw to claim your prize.

So please bring your family or a friend, and join us for an informative day on January 28, 2009.

Sunrise School Division

Kindergarten Registration and Grade 1 Beginners - For September 2009

Eligibility Requirement For

Kindergarten: Children must be five (5) years of age on or before December 31, 2009. Grade 1: Children must be six (6) years of age on or before December 31, 2009. Children previously enrolled in Kindergarten classes DO NOT need to be re-registered.

Dates of Registration: Monday to Friday, January 26 to January 30, 2009
Mornings: 9:00am to 12:00 noon Afternoons: 1:00pm to 3:30pm.
Unless otherwise specified.

Programs in Three (3) Languages Offered to all children beginning in Kindergarten or Grade 1 at the following centres:

Anola School	866-2962	English
Beausejour Early Years School	268-2664	English & French Imm.
Centennial School	345-2462	Monday till 7:00pm English
École Dugald School	853-7929	Tuesday till 7:00pm English & French Imm.
Gillis School	268-4353	Tuesday till 7:00pm English
Hazelrude School	755-2214	English
Oak Bank Elementary School	444-2473	English & English/Ukrainian Monday till 7:00pm English & French Imm.
École Powerview School	367-2296	English
Reynolds School	426-5559	English
Whitemouth School	348-2595	English
Grafton Colony School	268-2507	English
Greenwald Colony School	265-3522	English
Heartland Colony School	755-2342	English
Richland Colony School	866-3293	English
Springwell Colony School	345-6410	English
Whitehall Colony School	348-7055	English

Note: Proof of age must be presented at time of registration. Birth Certificate would be preferred. However, if a birth certificate is unavailable, then a Baptismal Certificate will be accepted.

Entry into the French Immersion and English/Ukrainian Bilingual Programs is open to all children of Kindergarten and Grade 1 age who possess little or no knowledge of the French or Ukrainian Language but who wish to become bilingual by learning French or Ukrainian as a second Language.

*Beausejour Early Years School will extend their hours on Monday, January 26th until 7:00 p.m. to accommodate parents who work during the day.

*Oakbank Elementary School will extend their hours on Monday, January 26th until 7:00 p.m. to accommodate parents who work during the day.

*Centennial School will extend their hours on Tuesday, January 27th until 7:00 p.m. to accommodate parents who work during the day.

*École Dugald School will extend their hours on Tuesday, January 27th, until 7:00 p.m. to accommodate parents who work during the day.

East Beaches Animal Shelter

A group of interested people started East Beaches Animal Shelter two years ago. Although our name says we are a shelter we don't have a building yet! We do have land and plan on building in the next five years.

Next year we hope to rent space for an office and a place to keep some of the animals. In the meantime we are a rescue and use foster homes. We really need people who would be willing to foster a cat or two or a dog for a short term. We supply all the pet needs...all they require is a safe, loving place to stop for a while until a permanent home is found. All rescued animals are spayed or neutered and receive their shots before they are placed in a home.

Our area encompasses Gull lake and northward through Beaconia. Grand Beach, Belair, Lester Beach,

Hillside Beach, Traverse Bay, Albert Beach, and Victoria Beach. We are looking for a community representative from each of these areas to attend our monthly meetings. If you would like to do this please call our president, Sandra Ateah 756-3117.

We would like to help other areas start their own animal rescues. We would be willing to meet with them and help them get started. There is a great need for this in the PineFalls / Powerview and Fort Alexander areas. Unfortunately we do not cover these areas, mainly because we just don't have the funds or volunteers. We know there are people interested in what we do, who live in the area mentioned. If you would like to add your name to a list of people interested in starting their own animal rescues please call Sandra at 756-3117 or Mindy at 756-8333.

East Beaches Animal Shelter
www.eastbeachesanimalshelter.com

Meet Abby & Annie!

This lovable mother daughter pair was put up for adoption after they came to the EBAS as feral cats. The plan was to have the pair spayed and then released back into the wild. Soon after meeting these characters it was obvious that in no way were these two critters able to fend for themselves, and were more likely abandoned pets and not feral cats.

It did not take them long to find a permanent home, although they were not kept together, they both flourished in their new homes until Abby's new caregiver, a little girl living with her grandma became highly allergic to Abby. As devastated as she is to have to say goodbye to her new friend, for the sake of her health it is necessary to find a new home for Abby.

Abby is a young mom, probably just over a year old. Abby is spayed and is in good health. She is a lovable gal who loves attention and still has the kitten spunk.

Currently the EBAS does not have a shelter facility and relies on foster homes. If you could foster this playful gal or permanently adopt her, please call Mindy (756-8333) or Sandra (756-3117).

Without a proper foster home, this poor girl may be forced to spend most of her time in a cage...

Annie (Adopted) Abby

East Beaches News

by Laura Tutties



Living on the Edge - Literally!

Laura Tutties
with Lori Fey

"Honestly - It felt like an earthquake and I thought we were going to drown" said Lori Fey of her close encounter with Mother Nature on Sunday, January 18th. Grand Marais has always been home to Lori so she has a healthy respect for Lake Winnipeg and has been

a close witness to it's moods. When caught inside a sinking ice fishing shack with her father-in-law Wayne Thomas and brother-in-law Randle Thomas, Lori got a first hand experience of the Lake's fickle taste for human flesh. She and her family were lucky but she says "This was so unbelievable. It's crazy how fast you have to move when something like this happens."

Since Christmas Day, all of us who live along the East Beaches have kept a close eye on the huge fissure that erupted noisily, then appeared the next day just a hundred yards from the land that contains homes and cottages of hundreds of families. Since the first long and narrow crack in the ice was spotted, there have been at least two more reports of

thunder like sounds as the Lake stretches then shrinks it's winter layer of ice. No one, from the most seasoned commercial fisherman or woman or even the most experienced recreational boaters and snowmobiler's take their safety, while on the Lake, for granted. They are always on watch for a change in conditions. So was Lori Fey.

This time of year there are a number of little fishing villages perched beyond the shore and recently, close to the open water in the Lake where the crack appeared over the holidays. Our temporary ice fishing villages look nothing like the urban fishing villages found near Selkirk, on the Red. These sportsmen plant over a hundred ice huts in a tiny clump at what is believed to be the Red River's choice fishing area.

The ice fishing villages of East Beaches are much less populated although we have at least one fairly dense neighbourhood of ice fishing huts. These can be found just beyond "the staircase" and the rocks which border the Northwest perimeter of the town of Grand Marais. In this makeshift community of winter ice shacks, the folks become neighbours, competitors and friends, as the winter season transpires.

You can imagine the fish stories that entail, although I doubt many will beat this year's story of ice fishing at Grand Marais!

I asked Lori what it felt like to be inside an ice fishing shack on Lake Winnipeg while it was sliding into a large crack in the lake. "It was pretty freaky" she exclaims. "A bunch of us had gone out for some fishing about nine in the morning and noticed that the crack in the ice seemed to be growing. We talked about maybe moving to the other side of the open water in case it got too wide to cross. My in-laws and my husband agreed to move them at 1:00, but about noon (after talking it over with my husband Byron) I walked the few feet over from the shack where we were fishing to the hut next door where my in-laws were fishing. I asked them if maybe we should move now.

That's when it all happened. All of a sudden the shack started to shake and tip. We could see that the ice was busted and starting to push up the lip of ice that had been an fishing hole. We just flew out of there".

After that it was all about getting everything moved away from the open water. Lori says "usually the ice breaks in layers and you're OK, but this time the whole piece just crumbled. The first thing saved (after human life) was a snowmobile that was parked right next to one of the shacks headed into the water. After that everyone near by pitched in to help move what they could and pull up the Thomas's immersed shack and that of their closest neighbour, Blair Shane. (Note: Both Blair and Lori provided a wealth of pictures from before and after the cave in. The pictures in the caption are from Lori.)

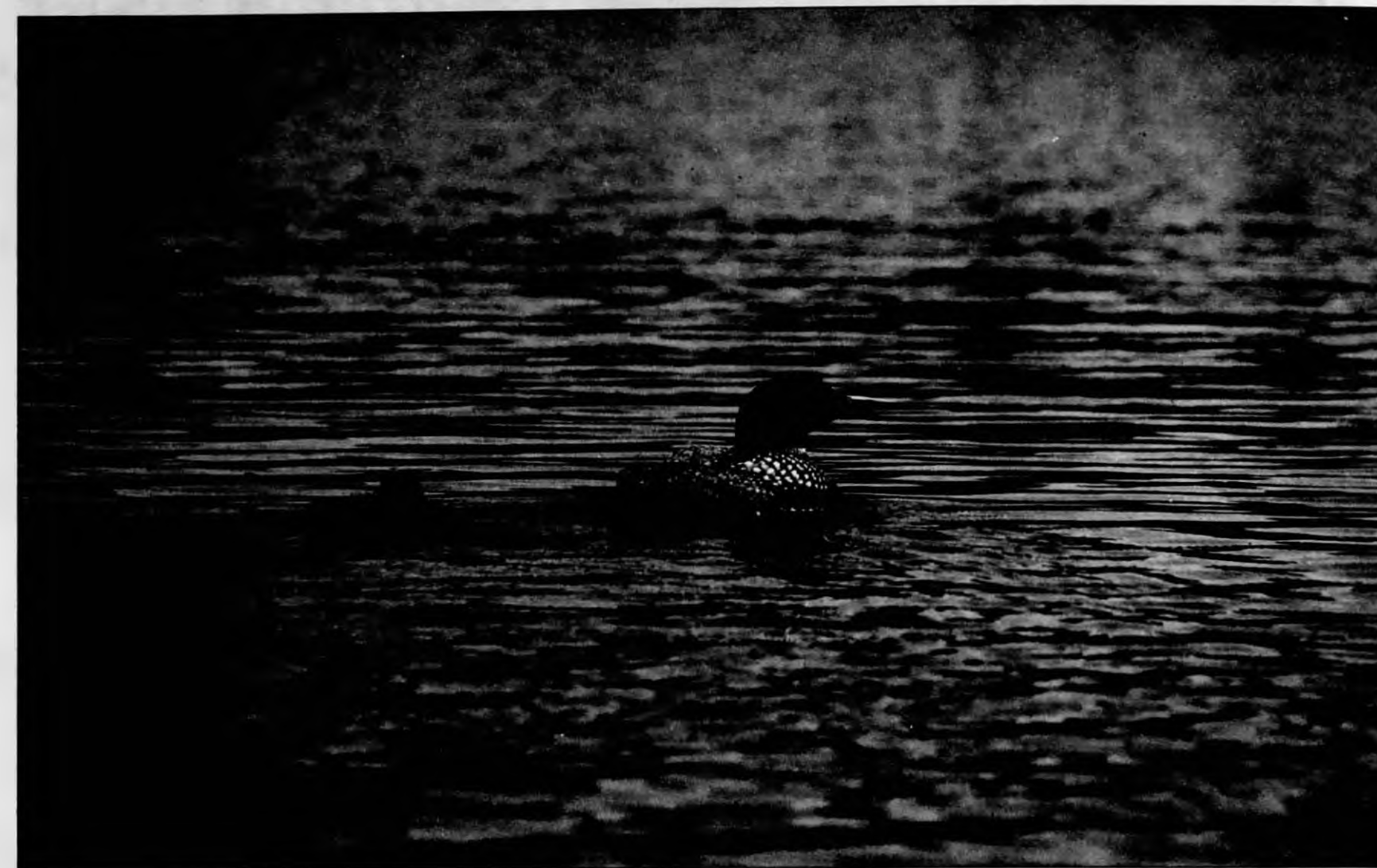
I asked Lori if she would be going fishing any time again soon. She said, "I dunno. It was pretty scary." Actually, I'm pretty sure I know the final verdict. Lori is young, she is safe and she really has a great story to tell. Plus, the reality is, that when you love to fish there is nothing much that can keep you away except time and nature. Thanks for the story Lori!



Features

Cougars, Wolves and Wolverines

A natural history of the East Beaches and Winnipeg River



The Loon

By Charles Norman

The loon hunts underwater by sight and prefers clear lakes so it is not common in the South Basin of Lake Winnipeg, but its haunting cry can often be heard in the long summer evenings on the Winnipeg River upstream of the Pine Falls Generating Station.

The loon has four calls, the long penetrating cry heard in the evenings, and sometimes in the morning is the most commonly heard and once heard is never forgotten. It is symbolic of the Canadian Wilderness, and the reason why the Canadian Dollar coin is illustrated with the loon. Other calls are thought to be warning calls or cries of alarm. They can be heard on the web at www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/loons/images.html.

The four calls have been described as the wail, tremolo, yodel and hoot. The wail is a rather negative name for the most beautiful of all the loon calls. It is used as a call to maintain contact with other loons and to regain contact with a mate during night chorusing.

The tremolo sounds like mad laughter and is used as an alarm signal. The yodel, a male call is a long rising call with repetitive notes and can last as long as five or six seconds. Every male has a slightly different yodel which can be used for identification. It is used to defend territory and to warn off other loons. The hoot, a one note hoo, is used to maintain contact between family members.

The common loon is one of five species. It spends summer in northern lakes, (including Wisconsin and Illinois), breeding as far north

as Baffin Island, northern Alaska on the Beaufort sea, and on the south and west coast of Greenland. The winter on the east and west coasts from British Columbia and Newfoundland to Mexico.

They prefer small lakes and lakes up to 250 acres will usually host only one pair. They usually mate for life. They arrive in pairs soon after the spring thaw. Their legs and feet have evolved for swimming; their legs are powerful and their feet are placed far back on the body. The combination makes them very efficient underwater hunters but makes them very ungainly on land. As a result nests are always close to water and often completely surrounded by water, small floating island of vegetation for example. Usually they can glide directly from the nest into the water.

Both male and female share in building the nest

which is made from whatever is available - sometimes mud from the bottom of the lake. Both share in incubation of the eggs which takes about four weeks. As soon as they hatch the young are able to swim and leave the nest permanently at two days old.

At this stage they are very vulnerable to carnivorous fish and snapping turtles. They will often ride on the back of either of their parents to escape the threat from the water. They are also preyed on by hawks, gull, and crows. For the first eight weeks the parents provide most of their food, but by the time they are twelve weeks old they are diving themselves and finding most of their own food.

The young are grey, as are the adults during the winter, but the black and white speckled colouring of the adults in summer, with a white ring around the neck,

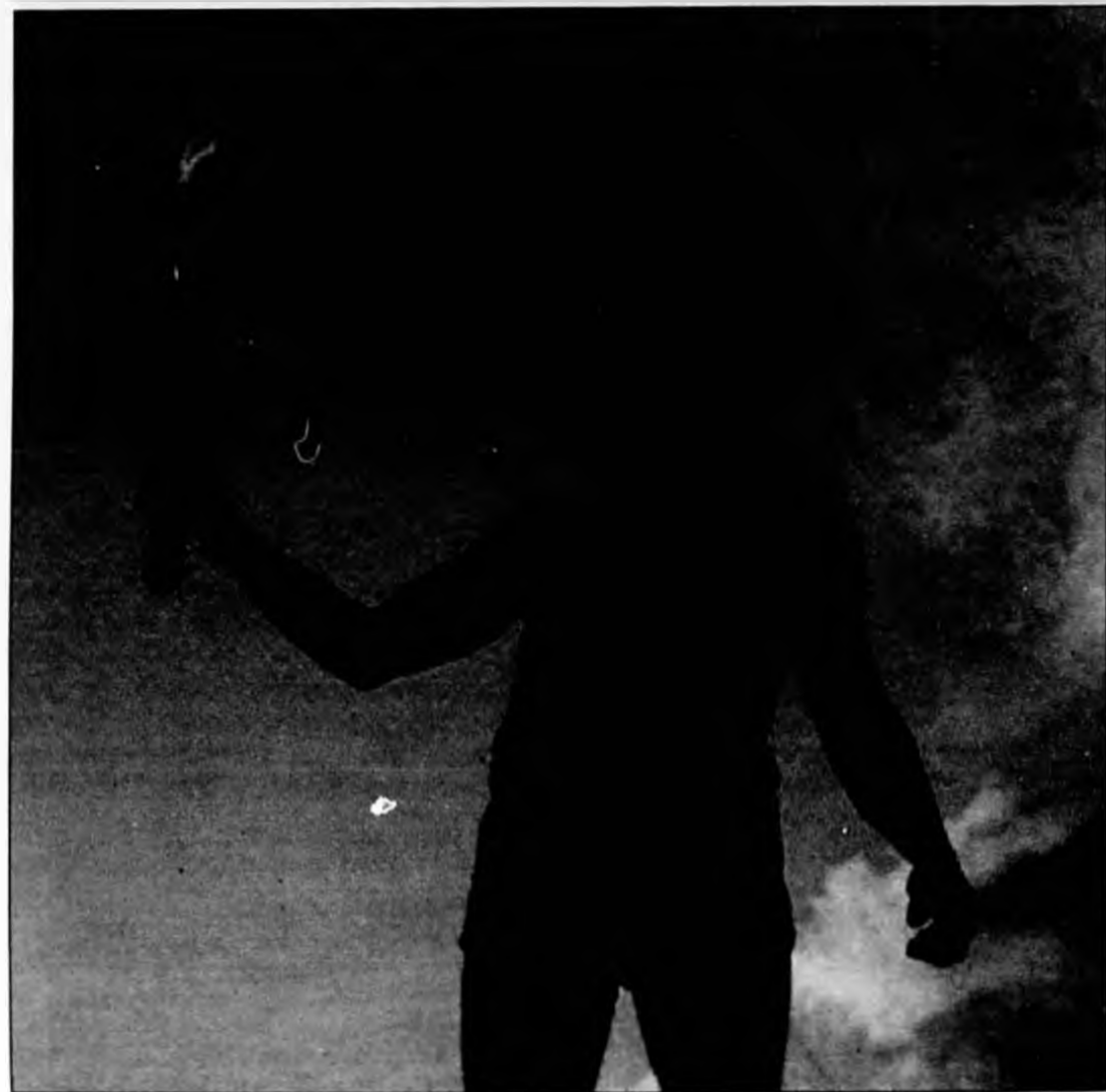
seems to be a perfect compliment to its surroundings.

Loons are diving birds. Some of their bones are solid to enable them to submerge easily. Air sacs in the wings can release air so that the bird can quietly sink into the lake. They can spend up to a minute underwater and can dive as deep as 250 feet. They can use their wings to manoeuvre underwater.

But this adaptation makes living on land impossible and flying difficult. They have to run over the surface of the lake into the wind to get enough speed to take off. On a calm day they may have to run for several hundred feet to get airborne. Once in the air they fly with rapid wing beats at about 75 miles per hour.

Males are larger than females. Males can weigh as much as 12 or 13 pounds. They have been known to live for thirty years.

Sports/Recreation



The Olympic Torch Is Coming to Winterfest

Did everyone survive the cold spell last week? Well I know that kids were in heaven from Powerview School getting 2 days off. As working parents I can appreciate how tough it is to work around sudden days off. I would like to thank the PRC Facility Committee for allowing the arena to be open both days for kids to get out and skate for the afternoon. Also to be thanked is Glenn Hibbert for volunteering to supervise the kids. What a great community when you can put something together in a pinch and find people to help out.

A correction to last weeks article regarding the Kids Carnival at Elk Island. No you cannot find that island at the end of hwy 304 as people informed me but you can find it at the end of hwy 504. I did this on purpose to see who is reading the article and Bob Kovachik you win the prize for being the first person to email the correction in! In addition a date has

been set for the Kids Carnival for March 14th. For more info you can visit the VB Snowdrifters website www.vbsnowdrifters.ca.

Something exciting is coming to Muck Hill for Winterfest this year. The Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch will be set up Saturday at Muck Hill for everyone to see and touch. This was made possible through Recreation Connections Manitoba and Sogo Active that is a new program to inspire youth to get physically active. This program will give participants a chance to carry the Olympic Flame in the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay. Sogo Active has been called "the sickest way to live healthy". Presented by Coca-Cola and in collaboration with ParticipAction, Sogo Active is unlike any other youth initiative because it gives our youth the tools to design, change and control their own active plan. Information will be available

through the schools shortly and promotional items will be available at Winterfest. Check out the website www.sogoactive.com to learn a little more or the register your child to become part of the movement.

Kim Bonekamp will be starting a new exercise program for teen's ages 13+ and families on February 18th at the Pine Falls School and you do not have to be accompanied by a parent to join. For those of you who have been attending any of Kim's classes she is a fantastic teacher and this is a great opportunity for youth and family to jump on board to getting healthy. Classes will be from 5:30-6:30 and will include cardio, circuit training, strength and conditioning. Make sure to bring indoor runners and a bottle water to keep hydrated.

Kelly Murray has a card making class scheduled for Monday, January 26th at the Rec Office from 7-9PM. For those of you who have

always wanted to learn Kelly has all the tools and tricks to help you along. You can create 8 cards for \$12.00 for all different occasions. For more info contact Kelly at 635-2396.

February 16th is Family Day and I think this would be a perfect opportunity for your family to create a snow sculpture to celebrate Winterfest the following weekend. A family skate is also scheduled from 3:30-5:15. Give me a call so we can set you up with some

snow!

This weekend is the Initiation Tournament (ages 4-6). There is nothing more entertaining than watching the kids at this age playing hockey or making snow angels on the ice. The canteen is open all weekend and a silent auction. Games run all day Saturday and Sunday.

That's if for this week. Enjoy this warmer weather and keep moving!

Lori Vialoux
Rec Director for
Pineview Rec Commission

Maskwa Snowmobile Club News

Hello fellow sledders and Maskwa Members. Just thought we would let you know that as a club we are still out there with a new executive for the 2008 / 2009 Season.

First of all, we would like to thank the past executive for all of their hard work and dedication over the past many years. Even though Ian Cyr and Mike Dupont have resigned from their executive positions, they continue to dedicate their time by posting all the necessary signs for our trails. Thanks guys, we really appreciate your time and experience!

Three meetings have been held to date to discuss the goals and objectives for this years season. A mogulmaster was purchased for the grooming of the "B" trails which we have in our possession. A couple of fundraising events are needed to recapture our costs for this piece of equipment. We have planned a couple of fundraising events which will occur over the next few months.

The first fundraising event will be a meat draw held at the Papertown Inn on Saturday, January 24, 2009 from 4:00 pm. to 6:30 p.m. in the bar. We have tentatively planned a second meat draw for Saturday, February 7, 2009 as well, we will keep you posted.

Our main fundraising event will be a poker derby scheduled for Saturday, March 7, 2009. Although we were unable to coincide our

derby with the Town Carnival which will be held February 18 thru to February 22, we do plan on assisting with a children's poker derby and fundraising this weekend as well.

The Maskwa Club Memberships are for sale by Mike Vincent, Arlen Bouvier and at the Chicken Chef. When purchased at the Chicken Chef you are granted 10% off of your restaurant bill for the 2008 / 2009 Season. The tickets sell for \$20/person or \$20/family. This money is used for the maintenance for the Maskwa Club itself.

Our trails are being groomed by Victoria Beach, Mooswa and Lee River. This past week all of our trails were in fine grooming shape. We would like to say thanks to all of you for a great job!

That's about all the news for now. We look forward to continued support from the local community in our promoting family fun and bringing business into the community. To all you sledders, have a safe and fun season out there!

Your Maskwa Executive:
President: Mike Vincent
Vice President: Arlen Bouvier
Treasurer: Tonya Kemball
Secretary: Dee Lavigne
Eastern Rep: Don Lavigne
Directors: Ron Anderson, Eric Carlson, Trevor Dowling, Jules Fontaine, Dan Kemball, Jamie Kemball, Mark McHugh, Marcel Roy.

Sports/Recreation

The 2009 Harvey Lacroix Men's Bonspiel - Grand Marais

There were twenty teams competing in the annual Harvey Lacroix Men's Cash Bonspiel hosted by the Grand Marais Recreation Association. I asked the namesake - Harvey Lacroix how one gets a bonspiel named after him. He humbly admits it was not his idea. Rather the ice maker and current curling co-ordinator for the Grand Marais Recreation Association, Chris Jensen - made the suggestion after taking over the formidable job from Lacroix. Lacroix agrees it is an honorary title.

Jensen is himself a tireless (and equally humble) volunteer who likely got six hours sleep between January 16th & 18th when the 2009 Men's Cash bonspiel was held. Jensen succeeded Lacroix four or five years ago (neither can remember)

as ice maker, draw master, occasional bartender, maintenance man, renovator and innovator. These are tasks that Lacroix faithfully administered for eighteen years. Lacroix retired to Grand Marais, the community where he once taught and wooed his bride Jean, who was born and raised in this Lake paradise. Therefore when the time came to leave Red Lake and his teaching career, the Lacroix happily returned to Grand Marais. The rest is history and in 2009 another Harvey Lacroix Men's Cash Bonspiel was an entertaining, financial success.

This years First event (A side) winners were also the winners in 2008. They include a team recruited by Joe Smith with team mates he has imported from Pine Falls.



First Event (A side): Al Harley - Skip; Rob McMullen - Third; Steve Kulyk - Second; Joe Smith - Lead



Second Event (B side): Kerry Gelean - Skip; Wade Orvis - Third; Desi Patzer - Second; Chad Pachkowsky - Lead



Third Event (C side) Frank Lodewyks - Skip; Barry Boutet - Third; Mike Fendick - Second; Jason Chody - Lead

We Need Your Help...

We want to provide more complete coverage of local sporting events. Please help us out by letting us know if there are any events you would like to see covered. Simply give us a call, send us a fax or drop us an email and we'll do our best to get out to cover your event!

The Winnipeg River **Echo**

Box 40, St. Georges, Manitoba R0E 1V0
Place McDougall, St. Georges
email: theecho@mts.net

Phone: 204-367-9468 • Fax: 204-367-9974

Recreation Updates

For Powerview/Pine Falls, St. Georges & R.M. of Alexander

Pineview Recreation Commission - Lori Vialoux, Rec. Director

Box 281 Powerview, MB. R0E 1P0 - 3 Walnut Street, Pine Falls
Ph: 204-367-9142 Fax: 204-367-8605 E-Mail: prarec2003@yahoo.ca

EXERCISE PROGRAMS

Family Fitness
Pine Falls School
Monday & Wednesday
SESSION STARTING FEB 18TH
5:30 - 6:30 PM
Instructor: Kim Bonekamp
For youth ages 13+ with or without a family member.
Includes cardio, circuit training, strength & flexibility.
Need 10 confirmed registrants to begin the class.
Contact Rec Office 367-9142

Fitness Class For Beginners
Pine Falls School
Monday & Wednesday
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
NEW SESSION STARTING FEB 18TH
Instructor: Kim Bonekamp
Start on the road to a healthier lifestyle improving your cardio, strength & flexibility. For registration contact Kim Bonekamp 367-2107 email kbonekamp@hotmail.com or Rec Office 367-9142.

Arthritis Exercise Program
Pine Falls School Gym
Every Monday's & Wednesday's
11:15 AM - Noon
NEW SESSION STARTING FEB 18TH
Instructor: Kim Bonekamp
This program is designed through PACE for people living with arthritis. There is no charge for this program.
For more info contact Kim @ 367-2107

Strength For Seniors
NEW INSTRUCTOR KIM BONEKAMP
Pine Falls School Gym
Monday's & Wednesday's
10:00 - 11:00 AM
NEW SESSION STARTING FEB 18TH
Instructor: Kim Bonekamp
Free program open to all seniors 55+.
Class includes walking, exercise ball, stretching & resistance. For more info contact Kim 367-2107

50 Plus Exercise Class
Senior Scene, Victoria Beach
Monday's 9:30 - 10:30 AM
Friday's 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Instructor: Natasha Joy
Monthly fee of \$5.00 per class
Program includes a lower intensity workout that includes cardio, muscle & stretching.
Need a minimum of 10 people to get started. To register call Natasha 756-3868 or email natasha@mns.net

Body Sculpture
Walter Whyte School, Grand Marais
Jan 12 - Feb 12
Instructor: Natasha Joy
Monday's & Thursday's
6:30 - 7:30 PM
10 classes for \$60.00
Moderate - High intensity. Class is always different and modified for every level.
Need a minimum of 10 people for the class. To register call Natasha 756-3868 or email natasha@mns.net

WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
3:30 - 5:15 Public Skates	3:30 - 5:15 Open Ice	3:30 - 5:15 Public Skates	INITIATOR	INITIATOR	3:30 - 5:15 Public Skates	3:30 - 5:15 Open Ice	3:30 - 5:15 Public Skates
5:15 - 6:00 Initiator Practice	5:15 - 6:15 Novice Practice	5:15 - 6:15 Open Ice	TOURNAMENT	TOURNAMENT	5:15 - 6:15 Initiator Practice	5:15 - 6:15 Novice Practice	5:15 - 6:00 Initiator Practice
6:15 - 7:15 Peewee Practice	6:15 - 7:15 Atom Game	6:15 - 7:15 Learn to Skate			6:15 - 7:15 Peewee Practice	6:15 - 7:15 Atom Practice	6:15 - 7:15 Peewee Practice
7:30 - 7:30 Midget B Practice	7:30 - 8:30 Bantam Girl Practice	7:30 - 8:30 Midget B vs Springfield			7:30 - 8:30 Bantam Boys Practice	7:30 - 8:30 Bantam Girls Practice	7:30 - 7:30 Laxer Ladies Practice
8:45 - 9:45 Old Kings Practice					8:45 - 9:45 Midget A Practice	8:45 - 9:45 Old Kings Practice	
10:00 - 11:00 Voyagers Practice							

Total Body Workout
St. Georges School Gym
Monday & Wednesday
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Instructors: Nick Bonekamp & Paul Roberts
\$20.00 per month/ Family plans available
Kickboxing (with or without pads), Stretching, Skipping, Rubber Bands, Circuits & Felt Pads
Loose Weight & Feel Great!
Contact Nick 367-2702 or Paul 367-8018

Rite & Shine Fitness Class
Pine Falls School Gym
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
6:30 AM - 7:30 AM @ Pine Falls School Gym
NEW SESSION STARTING FEB 17TH
Instructor: Kim Bonekamp
Program includes aerobics, circuits & boot camp training
To register call the Pineview Rec office 367-9142 or Kim Bonekamp 367-2107 or email kbonekamp@hotmail.com

Exercise Class
St. Georges Church Basement
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
5 step program with warm up & cardio
This is a free program for people of all ages. For more info contact Ginette Vincent 367-8244 or 367-9970

Seniors Exercise
Golden Leisure Club, Pine Falls
Every Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri
10:15 - 10:45
5 step program with warm up & cardio
This is a free program for people of all ages. For more info contact Ginette Vincent 367-8244 or 367-9970

Rivers North Fitness Coop
The Fitness Co-op is now entering into its third year of operation.
All membership fees are due. The one time co-op membership fee remains at \$100.00 with members paying a \$250.00 annual user fee and non-members \$300.00. For more info contact Bev Dube 367-8064 or Linda Cyr 367-2382
Contact Kim 367-2107

Winter Activities
Administration
Pine Falls School Gym
Thursday & Sunday's
STARTING JAN 22ND
7:00 - 9:30 PM
An adult must accompany children
For more info contact Ginette Vincent 367-8244

Duck Lake Ski Club
Pine Falls
Single Membership \$20.00
Family Membership \$30.00
Groomed trail starts from the Pine Falls Hospital. Memberships can be purchased at Celebrations Unlimited (Seam) and all membership monies go toward maintenance of the trail. For more info contact Howard May 367-8846.

Broomball
Pine Falls Arena
For ages 12 & up
Friday evenings 7:30-8:30 PM
Cost: \$60.00 for the season

For more info call J.L. Papineau 367-8570
Pine Falls Skating Program
Pine Falls Arena
Friday's 6:15 - 7:15 PM
Ages 3+
Helmet (hockey or bike), Skates (figure or hockey) and mittens required.
For program costs and information contact Lori 367-9142 or Cheryl Gogo 367-8499

Recreation Hockey
Pine Falls Arena, Victoria Beach Sports Club & Grand Marais Rec Centre
January, February & March
Days & times to be confirmed
Ages 8+
Equipment needed: Skates, Helmet & hockey stick
Program will include coaching & general skills plus scrimmages
Looking for volunteers to help coach this program.
For more info contact Lori 367-9142

Lazer Ladies Hockey
Pine Falls Arena
Every 2nd Wednesday
7:30-8:30 PM
Check arena schedule for dates.
For more info contact Dawn Nault 367-8419

Junior Curling League
Victoria Beach Sports Club
Thursday's
6:00 - 7:00 PM
For ages 8 - 15
\$25.00 per person
Slider & broom required (brooms available if needed)
For more info & registration contact Kim Mackelson 756-2984

Junior Curling
Pine Falls Curling Club
Tuesday's
6:30 - 8:00 PM
For ages 12 (born 1996) and older
Cost: \$50.00 per person
To register or for more information please contact Melinda 367-4682 or Fay 367-8968

Drop In Curling
Pine Falls Curling Club
Every Thursday @ 1:00 PM
Grand Marais Rec Centre
Every Wednesday @ 1:00 PM
Drop in curling is open to everyone.

Pine Falls Curling Club
For more info contact Gloria Brody 367-2656 Melinda 367-4682 or Fay 367-8968.
For more info on Drop In curling contact Bob Seguin 367-8344
Victoria Beach Sports Club
For more info or team registration contact Tracey 756-3742 or Cathy 756-2662
Grand Marais Recreation Association
For more info contact Chris Jensen evenings 754-3058 or email gjenjen@mns.net

MUSIC, DRAMA & Arts
Card Making
January 26th

Seniors Scene, VICTORIA BEACH
Beginners Line Dancing
Every Tuesday @ 9:30 AM
Advance Line Dancing
Every Tuesday @ 11:00 AM
Drop In Fee Members \$2.00 Non Members \$3.00
A wonderful way to exercise your body and challenge your memory.
For more info contact Judy 756-3132 www.seniorsceneinc.com
Stained Glass & Ceramics
Every Thursday @ 9:30 AM
Quilting
Every Thursday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Square Dancing
Every Thursday 3-5 PM
\$7.00 Per Person
Carpet Bowling
Every Friday @ 1:30 PM

7:00 - 9:00 PM
Pine Falls School (Rec Office)
Create 8 all occasions cards for \$12.00
For more information contact Jean MacDonald 754-3989.

Guitar Lessons
Starting in January
Beginners & Intermediate
Ages 10+
Sponsored by the Southeast Regional Music Corporation
Free program. Limited space is available. To register contact the Pineview Rec Office 367-9142

Beaches Drama Club
Thursdays & Saturdays
Ages 12+
Cost: \$30.00
Roles: 10 Adult Speaking 10 Youth Speaking, Unlimited Extras
Production of "The Hysterical History of the Trojan War"
Directed by Liz Jonkers. Looking for lots of adult help. For more info contact Angel Kraff 756-6426 or Liz Jonkers 756-8846

Adult Band
Powerview School
Room 28 (Band Room)
Start Date: January 9th
6:00 PM

For those who have an instrument or for those who want to learn
To play an instrument. Everyone Welcome!
For more info contact Dorinda Watson 367-2296.

CHILDREN & TEENS
First Lake Winnipeg Beavers
Walter Whyte School
Monday's 3:30 - 5:00 PM
Ages 3-5 (Male & Female)
October - May
Games, crafts, music, the outdoors & spiritual fellowship.
For more info contact Carol Laing 754-6232 or Sue 754-2541

Adult Leagues
Darts
Branch 64 Darts @ Royal Canadian Legion
Tuesday Nights 7:00 PM
For more information contact Jackie Prowse 367-8332

Adult Bowling League
Pine Falls Bowling Alley
Tuesday's & Thursday's @ 7:30 PM
For more info contact Evelyn Dodds 367-8413 or Sharon Mignon 367-8376
Seniors Bowling League
Pine Falls Bowling Alley
Tuesday's & Thursday's @ 1:00 PM
For more information contact Gerry Gauthier 367-8798

Winterfest
February 19, 20, 21 & 22
Powerview-Pine Falls & St. Georges
Family swim night, bonfire & fireworks, snowboarding & sliding.
Cross country ski poker derby, family bonspiel & more.
If you are interested in volunteering or contributing please contact Lori @ Pineview Rec Office 367-9142

Public Libraries
Bibliothèque Alard Regional
St. Georges
Operation Hours
Tuesday 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Internet Access Site
Beaches Library
Located in Walter Whyte School 754-4007
Operation Hours
Tuesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Thursday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Internet Access Site
Pine Falls Library
Located in Pine Falls School 367-8983
Open Monday - Friday
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Internet Access Site

Bean Bag Club
Grand Marais Rec Centre
For more information contact Jean MacDonald 754-3989.

Hall Walking Club
Grand Marais Rec Centre
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 AM - Noon
For more information on inside walking club contact Bonnie 754-3240

Pine Falls Golf Memberships
2009 Memberships forms are now available
at the Pineview Rec Office.

Festivals & Events
Cross Country Ski Clinic
Saturday, January 17
The Duck Lake Ski Club will be hosting a ski clinic with a professional from Bikes & Beyond that will include technique, waxing and apparel. BYO skis.
For more info contact Howard May 367-8846.

Minor Hockey Tournaments
At Pine Falls Arena
Initiators - January 24 & 25
Novice - February 13, 14 & 15

Bonspiels
H. Lacroix Men's Cashspiel, Grand Marais Jan 16 - 18
Birchwood Mixed Bonspiel, Victoria Beach Jan 23 - 25
Victoria Beach Ladies, Victoria Beach Jan 30-Feb 1
Pine Falls Mens, Pine Falls Jan 30 - Feb 1
Pine Falls Ladies, Pine Falls Feb 13 - 15
Victoria Beach Mens, Victoria Beach Feb 13 - 15
MB Open Stick Curling Championship, Grand Marais Feb 20 - 22
VB Fireman's Bonspiel, Victoria Beach Feb 20 - 22
VB Family Bonspiel, Victoria Beach Feb 27 & 28
Ice Breaker Mixed Cashspiel, Grand Marais Feb 27 - Mar 1
Pine Falls Mixed Bonspiel, Pine Falls March 13 - 15

Grand Marais Family Festival
8th Annual Winter Carnival
February 6, 7 & 8
Grand Marais Recreation Center
Kids activities, live entertainment, sleight rides, arts & crafts, Pancake breakfast, raffles and much more.
For more info contact Bonnie 754-3240

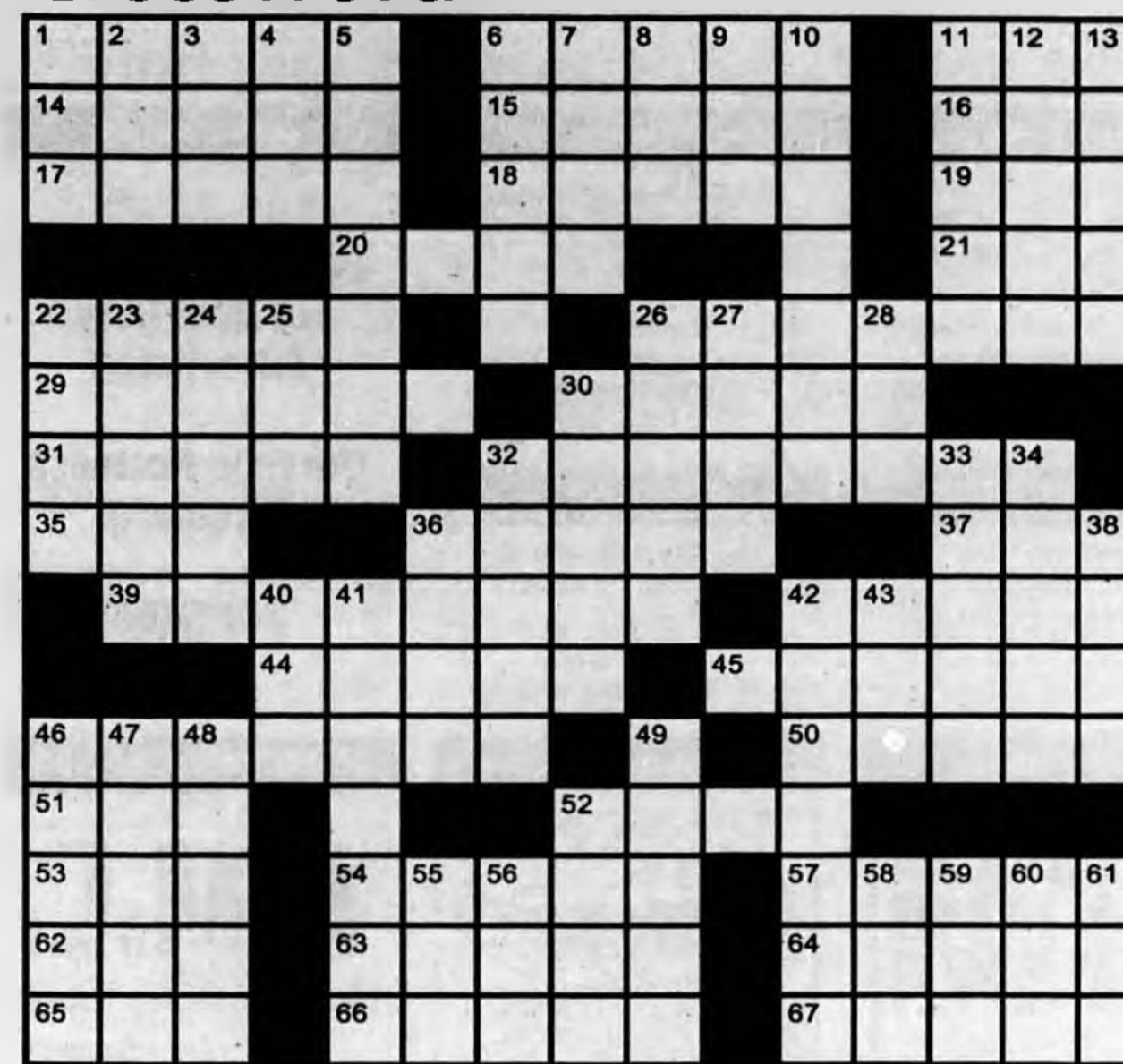
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Public Libraries
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St. Georges
Operation Hours
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Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
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Operation Hours
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Thursday 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 PM - 2:00 PM
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For registration contact Tom Paulkovic 367-367-8798

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Crossword



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- Across
- 1. More than plump
 - 6. Bundle
 - 11. Hockey surface
 - 14. Broadcast again
 - 15. Yo-Yo Ma's instrument
 - 16. Mafia boss
 - 17. Lima and kidney
 - 18. Propose
 - 19. Finish
 - 20. Triton
 - 21. "Much ___ About Nothing"
 - 22. Words to live by
 - 26. Not deep
 - 29. Bee house
 - 30. Cursed
 - 31. Small sample
 - 32. Another sailor
 - 35. Branch
 - 36. Whimper
 - 37. Ancient
 - 39. Looming
 - 42. Backbone
 - 44. Manicurist's board
 - 45. Split
 - 46. Responsible
 - 50. Indy entrant
 - 51. Male offspring
 - 52. Halo, e.g.



CRYPTIC PUZZLE

BVRSRFTBN TN BGLMBFBEH JNACJE ZN Z
CRMF RC BFQERHFBSL CRM BVRSRFTNLN
- WRUS DBSSBLU YZEXMZTU

Each letter represents another letter in the alphabet.
See if you can break the code to figure out the famous quotation

Last Week's Solution

TRADITIONS ARE GROUP EFFORTS TO KEEP THE UNEXPECTED FROM HAPPENING.
-BARBARA TOBER

- 53. Wood-shaping tool
- 54. Not together
- 57. Mantra
- 62. Hawaiian garland
- 63. Embankment
- 64. ___guided
- 65. Wipe up
- 66. Great fear
- 67. Void
- 24. Thingabob
- 25. Yoga class need
- 26. Golf stroke
- 27. Wish or desire
- 28. Pasture
- 30. Glistening
- 32. Polo, e.g.
- 33. Deadly substance
- 34. Omit
- 36. Small songbird
- 38. Bucks and does
- 40. Get hitched
- 41. Green gem
- 43. Egg cell
- 46. Sacred hymn
- 47. Cowboy exhibition
- 48. Decompress a file
- 49. Muffled
- 52. Length x width
- 55. For each
- 56. "___ Maria"
- 58. Prosciutto
- 59. Cobra
- 60. Web
- 61. Make an effort

- Down
- 1. Sphere
- 2. Spelling contest
- 3. Epoch
- 4. Catch some rays
- 5. Trap
- 6. Glower
- 7. Lift up
- 8. Pixie
- 9. Hearty brew
- 10. A part of a human limb
- 11. Perfect
- 12. Dwelling unit
- 13. Fund
- 22. Computer info
- 23. Abstractionism

Last Week's Answers



Weekly Horoscopes

January 15 - January 21

ARIES (Mar. 21- April 20) Be prepared to make compensations and adjustments. Changes to your self image will be to your benefit as long as you don't over pay. Your home may be in an uproar and you are best to stay out of the line of fire if at all possible. You will have additional discipline that will aid you in your objectives.

TAURUS (Apr. 21- may 21) Nagging has never been something that you could tolerate, and it's once again driving you into a lonely state of affairs. Your high energy, original ideas, and excellent memory will aid your accomplishments. Be sure to find out all you can before you commit to anything. You can visit clients and make a big impression just by giving them some hands-on help.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Opportunities to show your worth will enhance your reputation and bring possible advancement. Opportunities for romance will flourish through travel. You can make money if you put your mind to it. Talk to someone you trust if you need advice about broaching the subject.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) You will be able to make favorable changes in your living quarters. Put your energy into learning new skills or picking up valuable information. Get out

and enjoy some entertainment. Do not overspend on entertainment. You could find that children will be a handful

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Your ability to dazzle others with your unique and innovative ideas will attract attention. Work quietly on your own. You will be in an overly generous mood this week. Sentimental feelings may make it difficult to get much done at work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) Get together with people who stimulate you mentally. Real estate and joint financial ventures will be profitable. You must lay down ground rules so that you can complete a job. Either way, you're up for a passionate encounter with someone special.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) Get together with friends for some competitive physical activities. Visitors are likely to drop by and chances are, they may even stay a little longer than you want them to. Relatives will not agree with the way you are dealing with your personal problems. Residential changes, renovations, or moves are likely to disrupt your routine.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) Use your intellectual approach to get the best results. Take some time out. Do not make rash decisions about your personal life. It will be all around you.

SAGITARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec 21) Although upsetting, changes in your domestic situation will be favorable. Your involvement with groups will raise your self esteem. You may want to sign up for lectures or courses that will bring you mental stimulation. New emotional connections can be made through business contacts.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22- Jan. 20) Financial limitations may add to your depression. Do not make rash decisions about your personal life. Do not expect too much from others. It's time to reevaluate your own motives and make changes to yourself first.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) Make sure you concentrate if operating machinery or vehicles. Be sure to organize events that will keep the children busy. Your diplomatic nature will help you in straightening out unsavory situations. Try a barbecue or a day at the beach.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) Look into events that you might find interesting, and compromise by doing a few things that you both like to do. Take a different approach; make an offer they just can't refuse. Spend time by yourself to avoid any conflicts with family members. Do not make rash decisions about your personal life.

Classifieds

Manitoba Hydro
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST NO. 015012 - POINTE DU BOIS MODERNIZATION PROJECT ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL SERVICE
 Manitoba Hydro is planning to build a new generating station adjacent to the existing Pointe du Bois Generating Station in the Whiteshell Provincial Park, Pointe du Bois Generating Station is located on the Winnipeg River approximately 160 km northeast of Winnipeg.
 Manitoba Hydro is issuing an Expression of Interest, inviting interested individuals or business enterprises to submit Information Packages, including ideas, plans and solutions to providing accommodation and meal service for the proposed Pointe du Bois Modernization Project by February 6, 2009.
 Sealed submissions will be received at Manitoba Hydro, Purchasing Department, Box 1287, Winnipeg, MB, R3C 2Z1. If a submission is to be delivered by hand, it should be brought to the Security Officer, 1st Floor, 820 Taylor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3M 3T1.
 Closing Date: 16:00 hours, Manitoba local time, February 6, 2009.
 Any enquiry regarding obtaining the details of the Expression of Interest should be directed to Lucena Scanlon, Purchasing Department, Manitoba Hydro, PO Box 1287, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2Z1, Canada, whose telephone number is (204) 474-3061, FAX number is (204) 474-4972, and Internet e-mail address is lscanlon@hydro.mb.ca.

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RM Water Supply By-law Gets First Reading



Cottage Lot Draw Postponed

Province to Legislate East Side Lake Winnipeg Planning Will kill any prospect of OSB mill: George Harbottle

By Charles Norman
Cottage lot draws that should have been held this fall have been postponed. The provincial government promised to make 1000 lots available during the last election campaign. Sagkeeng Chief Donavan Fontaine has asked that these

lots on Lake Winnipeg north of Managagan were scheduled to be drawn for last year, but a local staged a month blockade on provincial highways preventing existing cottages getting access to their property. The situation has still not been resolved.

By Charles Norman
The expenditure and borrowing of money for the RM of Alexander's regional water project received first reading at the municipality's regular meeting on Tuesday December 9. First reading of the by-law is a necessary step before sending the project to the Municipal Board for approval. The Board will almost certainly decide to call a public hearing in the new year. At that hearing representatives can be made for the region of the project, for changes to the project or for approval. Owners of property at Leisure Falls and

Continued on page 3

are traditionally used by First Nations to ensure communities can govern. They have a solid base of information, including traditional knowledge, upon which to make land use decisions. 2) The establishment of three or four regional resource management boards to ensure First Nations and government representatives are able to review and provide advice when resources

Continued on page 3

The Winnipeg River **Echo**

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